

Date: Thu, 3 Feb 94 04:30:19 PST
From: Ham-Ant Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-ant@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Ant-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Ant@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Ant Digest V94 #22
To: Ham-Ant

Ham-Ant Digest Thu, 3 Feb 94 Volume 94 : Issue 22

Today's Topics:

 60' sloper
 Antenna pre-amps.
 Are MFJ Antennas Any Good?
 Biconical Antenna Design
 BV2CH
 Dipole supplies (3 msgs)
 How far wire antenna from power lines (2 msgs)
 Ideas ? GAP Challenger DX-VI
 mininec source code
 new Radio Communications mailing list
 Quagi part 2
 RG-58 and Discone ant. problem at VHF
 RS Rotor (2 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Ant@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Ant-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Ant Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-ant".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 31 Jan 94 20:14:00 -0500
From: blkcat!1-109-239-0!Paul.Brzonkala@uunet.uu.net
Subject: 60' sloper
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

for sale with two baluns. 50' coax.... (703) 816-7823. \$45.00

Date: Sun, 30 Jan 1994 16:11:34 GMT

From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!newsserver.jvnc.net!raffles.technet.sg!ntuix!
ntuvax.ntu.ac.sg!asirene@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Antenna pre-amps.
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

In article <CKAsuy.JqL@cscsun.rmc.edu>, dtiller@cscsun.rmc.edu (Dave Tiller)
writes:

> asirene@ntuvax.ntu.ac.sg wrote:

> : Hi,

>

> : Can anyone tell me the disadvantages/advantages of using an antenna

> : pre-amp?

>

> Advantages: Better apparent noise figure since the coax attenuation is
> no longer a factor (for antenna mounted amps), much higher signal levels,
> improved copy on weak signals.

What about for non-masthead pre-amps? Got any good circuits?

73 de 9V Daniel

>

> Disadvantages: Your transmitter output must backwash thru the thing - either
> the amp itself must detect the inbound RF and switch itself away, or you
> must provide a switching relay and the appropriate signal to do it manually.
> Additional risk of lightning damage since you've got to run power up the
> coax or a separate cable, and now there's a sensitive little GasFET up there
> waiting for a strike. Greater chance of front end overload on relatively
> strong signals (not an issue with an RF gain control.)

>

> --

> David Tiller	Network Administrator	Voice: (804) 752-7373	
> dtiller@rmc.edu	Randolph-Macon College	Fax: (804) 752-7231	
> n2kau@wa4ong.va.usa.na	P.O. Box 5005	This space for rent.	
> ICBM: 37 45N 77 45W	Ashland, Va 23005		

Date: 31 Jan 94 12:03:10 -0800
From: library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!nic.csu.net!vax.sonoma.edu!
butler@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Are MFJ Antennas Any Good?
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

I'm considering ordering a couple antennas from MFJ - specifically
the 5/8 2m base (1750) and the 5/8 2m mobile (1728). I'd like to
hear about any experiences, comments, or suggestions that might help
make my decision.

Thanks,
-Bob Butler, KE6EH0
(butler@sonoma.edu)

Date: Sun, 30 Jan 1994 04:42:50 GMT
From: agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!cs.utexas.edu!
gerald.cc.utexas.edu!slip-2-5.ots.utexas.edu!rfsimon@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Biconical Antenna Design
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

Does anyone have info on design parameters for a biconical antenna for use
on 30 to 88 Mhz for both transmit and receive? I have heard that this type
of antenna acn maintain a reasonable SWR over several octaves of bandwidth.

Maybe someone with military commo experience can help. The design needs to
be similar to a DOD OE-254 antenna.

Thanks.

Date: Tue, 1 Feb 1994 23:09:56 GMT
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!oakhill!
victorc@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: BV2CH
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

This is a testing from BV2CH.

Date: Sun, 30 Jan 1994 15:06:13 GMT
From: world!dts@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Dipole supplies
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

In article <2ige7m\$eij@charm.magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu> wvanhorn@magnus.acs.ohio-
state.edu (William E Van Horne) writes:

>

>

>

>Julian Macassey wrote:

>

>> And finally the \$64,000.00 question. What is recommended as

In article <1994Jan28.201536.11492@bongo.tele.com> julian@bongo.tele.com (Julian Macassey) writes:

>

> And finally the \$64,000.00 question. What is recommended as
>the best "rope" to hold up my cheesy antennas? It should be rot and UV
>proof. Nylon I believe will rot in the sun, as will polyester. What is
>the definitive word? Any Plastics men on the net who can answer this?

It may not be definitive, but among the riggers who work on tall ships the ONLY type of line which they will trust with their lives is the black polypropylene (often with an orange stripe) which truckers use to secure their loads. If this line 'looks' good it generally *is* good. This is in marked contrast to other types, which can look great but fail abruptly under load, once exposed to the rigors of the atmosphere.

Greg

Date: 1 Feb 1994 15:19:57 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!
vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!ux2.cso.uiuc.edu!ignacy@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: How far wire antenna from power lines
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

Do any regulations exists that tell how far away the wire antenna should be from the power lines? I know that the proximity results in line noise, so it is best to keep it as far away as possible.

Ignacy Misztal, N09E
ignacy@uiuc.edu

Date: Tue, 1 Feb 1994 20:32:19 GMT
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!
agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!newncar!
csn!col.hp.com!srngenprp!alanb@@.
Subject: How far wire antenna from power lines
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

Ignacy Misztal (ignacy@ux2.cso.uiuc.edu) wrote:
: Do any regulations exists that tell how far away the wire antenna should be
: from the power lines? I know that the proximity results in line noise,
: so it is best to keep it as far away as possible.

You should call up your local Planning Department to get the scoop on

zoning regulations.

As far as safety goes, be sure that there is no way the antenna could ever fall on the power lines, or that the power lines could ever fall on the antenna.

AL N1AL

Date: Tue, 1 Feb 1994 15:50:40 +0000
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!pipex!demon!
dis.demon.co.uk!paddocks.demon.co.uk!andrew@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Ideas ? GAP Challenger DX-VI
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

Does anyone have any ideas please ?

I installed a GAP Challenger DX-VI antenna in the summer of 92 and it has worked reasonably well up to a few months ago. Although the match is still about the same and it still hears pretty well I seem to be getting very poor reports (if reports at all). Friends using other verticals around this location seem to get through to the stations I am calling but not me !

I've had the antenna down and checked connections but nothing seems to help.

Any ideas ?

Has anyone actually tried an A/B comparrison with the GAP and an R7, HF6V or AP8 ?

I feel ready to junk the GAP and try something else.

--

Andrew Gawthrope G0RVM	internet : andrew@paddocks.demon.co.uk
	compuserve : 100113,3062

Date: 31 Jan 1994 19:55:23 GMT
From: library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!
sunfish.hi.com!brainiac.hi.com!user@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: mininec source code
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

I found the source for mininec in the /pub/rander/NEC directory on netcom.com.

Thanks to Ray Anderson WB6TPU for maintaining this site.

Steve Byan	internet: steve@hicomb.hi.com
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.	
1601 Trapelo Road	phone: (617) 890-0444
Waltham, MA 02154	FAX: (617) 890-4998

Date: Wed, 2 Feb 1994 23:15:48 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!newshub.nosc.mil!news!martinb@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: new Radio Communications mailing list
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

NRaD RADIO COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

We are beginning a new mailing list for the professional radio communications engineering community. rec.radio.amateur.* is a well established source of information for radio hobbyists, but it does not meet the needs of many commercial, military, and academic professionals.

Therefore, we are hoping that this mailing list will somewhat fulfill this need. Relevant topics include: radio propagation, antenna design, hardware design, FCC regulations, industry trends, parts suppliers, military requirements, and so forth. We would prefer that hobby-oriented topics remain on the established newsgroups.

To subscribe, send a message to me at:
martinb@cod.nosc.mil

I will add your name to the list and send you an informational message about the operation of the mailing list. If you wish to unsubscribe, send me a message, and I will remove your name from the mailing list.

Brett F. Martin
Naval Command, Control, and Ocean Surveillance Center
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Division
(NRaD)

San Diego CA

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Date: 2 Feb 94 21:19:48 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Quagi part 2
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

I left one out :)

Center Frequency	432.000	# of Elements	15	Units are Cm
	Length	Spacing	Boom Pos	
Reflector	71.120	0.000	0.000	
Driven Ele	67.628	17.780	17.780	
Director # 1	29.845	13.335	31.115	
Director # 2	29.686	27.940	59.055	
Director # 3	29.528	14.859	73.914	
Director # 4	29.369	22.225	96.139	
Director # 5	29.210	22.225	118.364	
Director # 6	29.051	22.225	140.589	
Director # 7	28.892	30.480	171.069	
Director # 8	28.734	30.480	201.549	
Director # 9	28.734	28.575	230.124	
Director # 10	28.575	29.210	259.334	
Director # 11	28.416	23.336	282.670	
Director # 12	28.257	31.432	314.103	
Director # 13	28.099	34.925	349.028	
Total Length	3.490 M			

end

the views expressed here are the author's

C. Harper harper@huntsville.sparta.com or kd4qio@amsat.org
KD4QIO
SPARTA Inc (205) 837-5282 x1216 voicemail
4901 Corporate Drive (205) 830-0287 FAX
Huntsville AL 35805
"we have met the enemy and he is us." w. kelly

Date: Tue, 1 Feb 1994 17:00:28 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!

spool.mu.edu!news.nd.edu!news1.oakland.edu!rcsuna.gmr.com!kocrsv01!
c2xjcb@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: RG-58 and Discone ant. problem at VHF
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

>
> Also, don't rule out the possibility of front-end overload on the scanner
> when the discone is connected. There may be nearby transmitter(s) that
> will cause the scanner's front-end to overload, therefore desensitizing
> it. The problem doesn't take place with the rubber duck due to the
> decrease in signal strength.
>
> My \$0.02 worth,
> Keith Welford
> N9IXG
> c22kw@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com

Might a test for this be to place an attenuator box between the
rig and the discone, set the attenuator on "0dB", and then slowly
increase the attenuation and see if at some point the signals
magically become LOUDER, even though you are increasing attenuation?

i.e.

At some point you will have attenuated the "loud" nearby transmitter
to the point where it doesn't saturate the front-end and lets the
desired signal thru?

I suppose if you know what the theoretical dB difference between the
duckie and the discone was, this might be a good upper limit on
the attenuation levels you want to try.

--

James C. Bach	Ph: (317)-451-0455	The views & opinions expressed
Advanced Project Engr.	GM-NET: 8-322-0455	herein are mine alone, and are
Powertrain Strategy Grp	Amateur Radio: WY9F	NOT endorsed, sponsored, nor
Delco Electronics Corp.	Just say NO to UNIX!	encouraged by DE or GM.

Date: Tue, 1 Feb 1994 22:13:01 GMT
From: library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!
usenet.ins.cwru.edu!news.csuohio.edu!vmcms.csuohio.edu!R0264@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: RS Rotor
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

In article <2iegoo\$7v@hopper.acm.org>
smithson@ACM.ORG writes:

>

>Does anyone have any experience with Radio Shack antenna rotors? I can find
>smithson@acm.org

I use one for a Cushcraft ten-3, 10m beam. I have a homebrew thrust bearing several feet above it, made of an old mast-through rotor with the innards removed. It works ok, but I ruined 2, getting exchanges from RS, before I found out that they can not be used continuous duty. I ruined one, with no load, indoors, brand new, just rotating it back and forth steadily for about 20 minutes. The motor in the control box got too hot and the coil shorted I think. You can look up the weight and wind loading of the Ten-3 in the standard catalogs.

Now I'm careful to give it a few seconds rest in swinging back and forth very far. ----- Phil Emerson, AA8JO

Date: Mon, 31 Jan 1994 13:43:39 GMT
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!greg@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: RS Rotor
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

In article <2iegoo\$7v@hopper.acm.org> smithson@ACM.ORG writes:
>Does anyone have any experience with Radio Shack antenna rotors? I can find
>no information about load capacity for weight or wind-area of antennas, etc.
>I'm looking for a rotor for a 14 ele 2m beam I plan to build, and wondered
>if the RS offering might do.
>Thanks for your help!

Find a TV antenna at RS that has similar boom and element dimensions to your beam. Find out what rotor they recommend for that. Buy it.

Greg

Date: 1 Feb 1994 17:49:21 +1100
From: unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!msuinfo!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!yarrina.connect.com.au!werple.apana.org.au!lsupoz.apana.org.au!sleeper!orb.@mvb.saic.com
To: ham-ant@ucsd.edu

References <wa2iseCJoqAx.CI3@netcom.com>, <2hio5sINN5uu@orb.apana.org.au>,
<CJy1Jv.GH4@sleeper.apana.org.au>yarrina
Subject : Re: safety of HT antennas

In <CJy1Jv.GH4@sleeper.apana.org.au> matthew@sleeper.apana.org.au (Matthew Geier) writes:

>>Yes, I did think of this solution, although for mobile use when I'm on
>>a train it would not be so good since the antenna would always be
>>collecting bits of tree or tunnel or bridge or.....

> Or 1.5KDC railway overhead..

Yes, that's the major problem. I doubt that the transmitter isolation
would stand up to 1500 volts DC being fed into it, and the received would
very definitely become plastic charcoal!

> Id go to the occupational health and safety officer and present a case
>that useing these hand-helds in the cab next to ones head is a potential
>health risk, and that roof mounted attenna's should be fitted to all
>locomotives, and not just the select few that run interstate.
> Then you reduce the close emmissions to the times your are outside checking
>things.

This could be worthwhile pursuing, but of course with the new radio
system being progressively installed any action would be non-resultant.

> Not the best, but at least you have removed the situation where you are
>in a metal box, holding the annenna next to your head, with the RF bouncing
>around untill it finds a window..

Yeah - it's kind of like sitting in a microwave, except that the RF is
at UHF and not SHF. I never understood how these so-called communications
engineers worked out that we'd be able to get a decent ammount of RF
outside of the metalwork of the loco cabs. Most of the time when we're
on the older engines (hood units) the only way to get good signal levels in
and out is to stand outside on the walkway with the radio!

Craig, the Freight Raver.

--

Craig Dewick [Freight Raver Craig] (craig@orb.apana.org.au).

- Swimming in the MUSIQUARIUM of Life -

Always striving for a secure long-term future in an insecure short-term world.

End of Ham-Ant Digest V94 #22
